

AGENDA ITEM 1G
Consent Item

MEMORANDUM

DATE: November 4, 2021

TO: El Dorado County Transit Authority

FROM: Brian James, Planning and Marketing Manager

SUBJECT: Zero Emission Bus (ZEB) Transition Planning

REQUESTED ACTION:
BY MOTION,

1. Receive and File the ZEB Strategy and Final Report
2. Adopt Resolution No. 21-24 Approving the Zero Emission Bus Rollout Plan and Authorizing the Executive Director to submit the Plan to the California Air Resources Board

BACKGROUND

The Innovative Clean Transit (ICT) regulation became effective October 1, 2019 and requires all public transit agencies to gradually transition their bus fleets to zero-emission technologies. The ICT regulation applies to all transit agencies that own, operate, or lease buses with a gross vehicle weight rating (GVWR) greater than 14,000 pounds. It covers standard, articulated, over-the-road, double decker, and cutaway buses. The ICT regulation requires a percentage of new bus purchases to be zero-emission buses (ZEBs) with percentages increasing gradually with time. The ZEB purchase requirements begin in 2026 for small transit agencies. Starting 2029, 100 percent of all new bus purchases must be ZEBs, with a goal of complete transition to ZEBs by 2040.

The ICT regulation requires small transit agencies to submit a Zero-Emission Bus Rollout Plan (Rollout Plan) to the California Air Resources Board (CARB) by July 1, 2023. The Rollout Plan will be a living document and is meant to guide the implementation of zero-emission bus fleets and help the El Dorado County Transit Authority (El Dorado Transit) work through many of the potential challenges and explore solutions. The Rollout Plan includes estimated timelines based on best available information for future bus purchases, infrastructure upgrades, and workforce training.

Once the Rollout Plan is submitted and approved by CARB, El Dorado Transit will update the Rollout Plan to account for changing conditions and any updates will be resubmitted to CARB. The components of the plan will provide the state with crucial information, such as the probable number of buses to be deployed by each transit agency in the state, which will inform future policy and funding decisions, and other ways state agencies can support transit agencies through this transition. The Rollout Plans will also help fuel providers learn about infrastructure needs

during different stages of transition and help inform decisions regarding what support would best help transit agencies as they develop and expand the needed charging infrastructure. Information provided in the Rollout Plans is necessary to address barriers to implementation.

El Dorado Transit worked with the El Dorado County Transportation Commission (EDCTC) who obtained a Caltrans Sustainable Transportation Planning Grant to fund the ZEB transition study prepared by Stantec Consulting Services, Inc. The draft ZEB transition plan was presented by the Stantec Project Manager David Verbich to the El Dorado Transit Board on October 7, 2021.

DISCUSSION

Based on comments received during the Board meeting, public comment period, community workshops, Stakeholder committee meetings, and the Project Development Team meetings, the ZEB Strategy and Final Report and the Zero Emission Bus Rollout Plan, which comes from the Report and contains all the required elements, were created. The only changes made to the final documents were ADA-accessibility formatting changes required by Caltrans and the Sustainable Transportation Planning Grant Program, the addition of Section 3, a public outreach summary, and appendices that include public outreach summary documents, rough order of magnitude cost estimates, and site concept master plan. Per the ICT regulation, these documents must be approved by the El Dorado Transit Board through the adoption of Resolution No. 21-24 prior to submitting to CARB.

With the requested action, staff recommends the Board receive and file the ZEB Strategy and Final Report, and adoption of Resolution No. 21-24 approving the Zero Emission Bus Rollout Plan and authorizing the Executive Director to submit the Plan to CARB. The Report and Plan can be viewed at <https://eldoradotransit.com/board-meeting/november-4-2021/>

**EL DORADO COUNTY TRANSIT AUTHORITY
RESOLUTION NO. 21-24**

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF
THE EL DORADO COUNTY TRANSIT AUTHORITY
APPROVING THE ZERO EMISSION BUS (ZEB) FLEET ROLLOUT PLAN AND
AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO SUBMIT THE ZEB FLEET ROLLOUT
PLAN TO THE CALIFORNIA AIR RESOURCES BOARD IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE
INNOVATIVE CLEAN TRANSIT REGULATIONS

WHEREAS, in 2018 the California Air Resources Board (CARB) adopted the Innovative Clean Transit (ICT) regulation which requires public transit agencies to transition to a 100 percent zero-emission bus fleet, such as battery-electric or fuel-cell electric, by 2040;

WHEREAS, each transit agency must adopt and submit to CARB a Zero Emission Bus (ZEB) Rollout Plan describing how the agency will transition to a zero-emission fleet;

WHEREAS, the El Dorado County Transit Authority (El Dorado Transit) ZEB Rollout Plan must be submitted to CARB by July 1, 2023;

WHEREAS, small transit agencies such as El Dorado Transit must purchase a minimum number of ZEBs during future procurements, according to the following schedule:

- Starting in January 2026, twenty-five percent (25%) of the total number of new bus purchases in each calendar year must be ZEBs,
- Starting in January 2029, all new bus purchases must be ZEBs

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED AND ORDERED that the Board of Directors of El Dorado Transit adopts the agency's ZEB Rollout Plan as a guide for the implementation of ZEB technology and approves it for submission to CARB.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Executive Director is authorized to submit the ZEB Rollout Plan attached hereto, and any other documents or instruments required by CARB for the submittal and adoption of the ZEB rollout plan, in accordance with the ICT Regulations.

PASSED AND ADOPTED BY THE GOVERNING BOARD OF THE EL DORADO COUNTY TRANSIT AUTHORITY at a regular meeting of said Board held on the 4th day of November 2021, by the following vote of said Board:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

Kara Taylor, Chairperson

ATTEST:

Megan Wilcher, Secretary to the Board